

PATENT

Application Serial No. 09/283,389
Attorney Docket No. 98-099

C L A I M S

The following is a detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application. A status identifier is provided for every claim and the current text of every claim is presented, unless the claim has been cancelled. Current amendments to the claims are expressed in the detailed listing by strikethrough (for deleted matter) or underlining (for added matter).

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1. (Currently Amended) A method for a supplier to offer a second product ~~multiple products~~ to a first person, comprising:
- storing data relating to a first product that has been provided to the first person and data identifying the first person in a memory of a computer;
 - receiving an inquiry relating to the first product from a second person;
 - searching, based on the inquiry, the memory to determine whether the data relating to the first product is stored therein; and
 - transmitting, from the supplier and to the first person based on the data identifying the first person, an offer to exchange the first product for a second product to the first person based on the data identifying the first person.
2. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising the step of the supplier making an agreement with the first person, the agreement relating to the providing of the first product to the first person, wherein the agreement is selected from at least one of a lease agreement, a finance purchase agreement, and an outright purchase agreement.
3. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising the step of making an agreement with the first person, wherein the agreement provides that the supplier will offer the first person the second product.
4. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 3, wherein the agreement further provides a time period within which the supplier will transmit the offer to the first person.

PATENT

Application No. 09/283,389
Attorney Docket No.: 98-099

5. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 3, wherein the agreement further provides a description of the second product that the supplier will offer to the first person.
6. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 3, wherein the agreement further provides that the first person will obtain the second product for an amount equal to a cost of the second product minus a fair market value of the first product.
7. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 6, wherein the agreement further provides that the fair market value of the first product will be determined by a third party.
8. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 7, wherein the third party is the supplier.
9. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the data that relates to the first product is selected from at least one of a manufacturer, physical characteristics, model, and product identifier of the first product.
10. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the data that identifies the first person is selected from at least one of a name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, and identification number of the first person.
11. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the first and second products are selected from at least one of goods and services.
12. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the second person has access to the data that relates to the first product.

PATENT

Application No. 09/283,389
Attorney Docket No.: 98-099

13. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising the step of storing data relating to an inventory of products from which the first person may select the second product.

14. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 13, wherein the data relating to the inventory of products comprises data identifying a variety of new products.

15. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the step of searching comprises the step of evaluating the availability of the first product.

16. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 15, wherein the availability of the first product is affected by at least one of (i) an agreement between the supplier and the first person that describes a time period within which the first person may be contacted in order to receive the offer, (ii) the availability of the second product, and (iii) the cost of the second product.

17. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the offer to the first person further provides that the first person can obtain the second product for an amount equal to a cost of the second product minus a fair market value of the first product.

18. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 17, wherein the offer to the first person further provides that the fair market value of the first product is to be determined by a third party.

19. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 18, wherein the third party is the supplier.

PATENT

Application No. 09/283,389
Attorney Docket No.: 98-099

20. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the offer includes an amount the first person is to pay for the second product, and wherein the amount is equal to the difference between a cost associated with the second product and a cost associated with the first product.

61
21. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 20, wherein the amount the first person is to pay for the second product is affected by a product variable selected from at least one of the condition of the first product, the availability of the second product, and the price of the second product.

22. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the offer to the first person further provides a selection of products from which the first person can choose the second product.

23. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the first product includes more than one product.

PATENT

Application No. 09/283,389
Attorney Docket No.: 98-099

24. (Currently Amended) A system for a supplier to offer a second product ~~multiple products~~ to a first person, comprising:

a memory for storing data relating to a first product that has been provided to the first person and data identifying the first person; and

a processor in communication with the memory, wherein the processor is programmed to

store the data relating to the first product and the data identifying the first person in the memory;

receive an inquiry relating to the first product from a second person;

search, based on the inquiry, the memory to determine whether the data relating to the first product is stored therein; and

transmit, from the supplier and to the first person based on the data identifying the first person, an offer to exchange the first product for a second product to the first person based on the data identifying the first person.

25. (Original) A system as recited in Claim 24, wherein the processor is further programmed to receive data relating to an agreement between the supplier and the first purchaser, the agreement relating to the providing of the first product to the first person, wherein the agreement is selected from at least one of a lease agreement, a finance purchase agreement, and an outright purchase agreement.

26. (Original) A system as recited in Claim 24, wherein the processor is further programmed to receive data relating to an agreement between the supplier and the first purchaser, wherein the agreement provides that the supplier is to offer the first person the second product.

PATENT

Application No. 09/283,389
Attorney Docket No.: 98-099

27. (Original) A system as recited in Claim 26, wherein the agreement further provides a time period within which the supplier will transmit the offer to the first person.

28. (Original) A system as recited in Claim 26, wherein the agreement further provides a description of the second product that the supplier will offer to the first person.

29. (Original) A system as recited in Claim 26, wherein the agreement further provides that the first person will obtain the second product for an amount equal to a cost of the second product minus a fair market value of the first product.

61
30. (Original) A system as recited in Claim 29, wherein the agreement further provides that the fair market value of the first product is to be determined by a third party.

31. (Original) A system as recited in Claim 30, wherein the third party is the supplier.

32. (Original) A system as recited in Claim 24, wherein the data that relates to the first product is selected from at least one of a manufacturer, physical characteristics, model, and product identifier of the first product.

33. (Original) A system as recited in Claim 24, wherein the data that identifies the first person is selected from at least one of a name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, and product identifier of the first person.

34. (Original) A system as recited in Claim 24, wherein the first and second products are selected from at least one of goods and services.

PATENT

Application No. 09/283,389
Attorney Docket No.: 98-099

35. (Original) A system as recited in Claim 24, wherein the second person has access to the data that relates to the first product.
36. (Original) A system as recited in Claim 24, wherein the processor is further programmed to store data relating to an inventory of products from which the first person may select the second product.
37. (Original) A system as recited in Claim 36, wherein the data relating to the inventory of products comprises data identifying a variety of new products.
- 61 38. (Original) A system as recited in Claim 24, wherein the processor is further programmed to evaluate the availability of the first product.
39. (Original) A system as recited in Claim 38, wherein the availability of the first product is affected by at least one of (i) an agreement between the supplier and the first person that describes a time period within which the first person may be contacted in order to receive the offer, (ii) the availability of the second product, and (iii) the cost of the second product.
40. (Original) A system as recited in Claim 24, wherein the offer to the first person further provides that the first person can obtain the second product for an amount equal to a cost of the second product minus a fair market value of the first product.
41. (Original) A system as recited in Claim 40, wherein the offer to the first person further provides that the fair market value of the first product is to be determined by a third party.

PATENT

Application No. 09/283,389
Attorney Docket No.: 98-099

42. (Original) A system as recited in Claim 41, wherein the third party is the supplier.
43. (Original) A system as recited in Claim 24, wherein the offer includes an amount the first person is to pay for the second product, and wherein the amount is equal to the difference between a cost associated with the second product and a cost associated with the first product.
44. (Original) A system as recited in Claim 24, wherein the offer to the first person further provides a selection of products from which the first person can choose the second product.
45. (Previously Amended) A system as recited in Claim 24, wherein the first product is more than one product.
46. (Currently Amended) A method for a first person to acquire a second product ~~multiple products~~ from a supplier, comprising:
obtaining a first product;
transmitting data to the supplier including a description of the first product and a description of the first person; and
receiving an offer to exchange the first product for a second product from the supplier, wherein the offer is a result of an inquiry by a second person to the supplier for the first product.
47. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 46, wherein the step of obtaining the first product comprises the step of receiving the first product from the supplier and making

PATENT

Application No. 09/283,389
Attorney Docket No.: 98-099

e' a related agreement with the supplier, wherein the agreement is selected from at least one of a lease agreement, a finance purchase agreement, and an outright purchase agreement.

PATENT

Application No. 09/283,389
Attorney Docket No.: 98-099

48. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 46, wherein the step of obtaining the first product comprises the step of receiving the first product from the supplier and making a related agreement with the supplier, the agreement providing that the supplier will offer the first person the second product.

49. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 48, wherein the agreement further provides a time period within which the supplier will transmit the offer to the first person.

61 50. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 48, wherein the agreement further provides a description of the second product that the supplier will offer to the first person.

51. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 48, wherein the agreement further provides that the first person will obtain the second product for an amount equal to a cost of the second product minus a fair market value of the first product.

52. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 51, wherein the agreement further provides that the fair market value of the first product will be determined by a third party.

53. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 52, wherein the third party is the supplier.

54. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 46, wherein the description of the first product is selected from at least one of a manufacturer, physical characteristics, model, and product identifier of the first product.

PATENT

Application No. 09/283,389
Attorney Docket No.: 98-099

55. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 46, wherein the description of the first person is selected from at least one of the name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, and product identifier of the first person.

56. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 46, wherein the first and second products are selected from at least one of goods and services.

57. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 46, further comprising the step of searching data relating to an inventory of products from which the first person may select the second product.

58. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 57, wherein the data relating to the inventory of products comprises data identifying a variety of new products.

59. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 46, wherein the offer for the second product from the supplier further provides that the first person will obtain the second product for an amount equal to a cost of the second product minus a fair market value of the first product.

60. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 59, wherein the offer for the second product from the supplier further provides that the fair market value of the first product will be determined by a third party.

61. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 60, wherein the third party is the supplier.

PATENT

Application No. 09/283,389
Attorney Docket No.: 98-099

62. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 46, wherein the offer for the second product from the supplier further provides a selection of products from which the first person can choose the second product.

63. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 46, wherein the offer includes an amount the first person is to pay for the second product, and wherein the amount is equal to the difference between a cost associated with the second product and a cost associated with the first product.

64. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 63, wherein the amount the first person is to pay for the second product is affected by a product variable selected from at least one of the condition of the first product, the availability of the second product, and the price of the second product.

65. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 46, further comprising the step of accepting the offer from the supplier and selecting a preference for the second product.

66. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 46, wherein the first product is more than one product.

PATENT

Application No. 09/283,389
Attorney Docket No.: 98-099

67. (Currently Amended) A method for a supplier to offer a second product ~~multiple products~~ to a first person, comprising:

receiving a request from the first person for a first product;

providing the first person the first product;

storing data relating to the first product and data identifying the first person in a memory of a computer;

receiving an inquiry relating to the first product from a second person;

searching, based on the inquiry, the memory to determine whether the data relating to the first product is stored therein; and

transmitting, from the supplier and to the first person based on the data identifying the first person, an offer to exchange the first product for a second product ~~to the first person based on the data identifying the first person~~.

68. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 67, further comprising the step of the supplier making an agreement with the first person, the agreement relating to the providing of the first product to the first person, wherein the agreement is selected from at least one of a lease agreement, a finance purchase agreement, and an outright purchase agreement.

69. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 67, further comprising the step of making an agreement with the first person, wherein the agreement provides that the supplier will offer the first person the second product.

70. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 69, wherein the agreement further provides a time period within which the supplier will transmit the offer to the first person.

71. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 69, wherein the agreement further provides a description of the second product that the supplier will offer to the first person.

PATENT

Application No. 09/283,389
Attorney Docket No.: 98-099

72. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 69, wherein the agreement further provides that the first person will obtain the second product for an amount equal to a cost of the second product minus a fair market value of the first product.

73. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 72, wherein the agreement further provides that the fair market value of the first product will be determined by a third party.

74. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 73, wherein the third party is the supplier.

61 75. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 67, wherein the data that relates to the first product is selected from at least one of a manufacturer, physical characteristics, model, and product identifier of the first product.

76. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 67, wherein the data that identifies the first person is selected from at least one of a name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, and product identifier of the first person.

77. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 67, wherein the first and second products are selected from at least one of goods and services.

78. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 67, wherein the second person has access to the data that relates to the first product.

79. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 67, further comprising the step of storing data relating to an inventory of products from which the first person may select the first product.

PATENT

Application No. 09/283,389
Attorney Docket No.: 98-099

80. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 79, wherein the data relating to the inventory of products comprises data identifying a variety of new products.
81. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 67, further comprising the step of storing data relating to an inventory of products from which the first person may select the second product.
82. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 71, wherein the data relating to the inventory of products comprises data identifying a variety of new products.
83. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 67, wherein the step of searching comprises the step of evaluating the availability of the first product.
84. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 83, wherein the availability of the first product is affected by at least one of (i) an agreement between the supplier and the first person that describes a time period within which the first person may be contacted in order to receive the offer, (ii) the availability of the second product, and (iii) the cost of the second product.
85. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 67, wherein the offer to the first person further provides that the first person can obtain the second product for an amount equal to a cost of the second product minus a fair market value of the first product.
86. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 85, wherein the offer to the first person further provides that the fair market value of the first product is to be determined by a third party.

PATENT

Application No. 09/283,389
Attorney Docket No.: 98-099

- 61
87. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 86, wherein the third party is the supplier.
88. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 67, wherein the offer includes an amount the first person is to pay for the second product, and wherein the amount is equal to the difference between a cost associated with the second product and a cost associated with the first product.
89. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 88, wherein the amount the first person is to pay for the second product is affected by a product variable selected from at least one of the condition of the first product, the availability of the second product, and the price of the second product.
90. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 67, wherein the offer to the first person further provides a selection of products from which the first person can choose the second product.
91. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 67, wherein the first product is more than one product.
- 92 - 100 (Cancelled)
101. (Currently Amended) A method for a supplier to offer a second product ~~multiple products~~ to a first person, comprising:
- storing data relating to a first product that has been provided to the first person and data identifying the first person in a memory of a computer;
 - transmitting, from the supplier and to the first person based on the data identifying the first person, an offer to exchange the first product for a second product to the first

PATENT

Application No. 09/283,389
Attorney Docket No.: 98-099

~~person based on the data identifying the first person;~~

searching the memory to determine whether there is data identifying a second person and data indicating that the second person may be interested in obtaining the first product; and

transmitting, from the supplier and to the second person based on the data identifying the second person, an offer for the first product to the second person based on the data identifying the second person.

102. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 101, further comprising the step of the supplier making an agreement with the first person, the agreement relating to the providing of the first product to the first person, wherein the agreement is selected from at least one of a lease agreement, a finance purchase agreement, and an outright purchase agreement.

103. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 101, further comprising the step of making an agreement with the first person, wherein the agreement provides that the supplier will offer the first person the second product.

104. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 103, wherein the agreement further provides a time period within which the supplier will transmit the offer to the first person.

105. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 103, wherein the agreement further provides a description of the second product that the supplier will offer to the first person.

106. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 103, wherein the agreement further provides that the first person will obtain the second product for an amount equal to a cost of the second product minus a fair market value of the first product.

PATENT

Application No. 09/283,389
Attorney Docket No.: 98-099

107. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 106, wherein the agreement further provides that the fair market value of the first product will be determined by a third party.

108. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 107, wherein the third party is the supplier.

109. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 101, wherein the data that relates to the first product is selected from at least one of a manufacturer, physical characteristics, model, and product identifier of the first product.

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110. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 101, wherein the data that identifies the first person is selected from at least one of a name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, and product identifier of the first person.

111. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 101, wherein the first and second products are selected from at least one of goods and services.

112. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 101, wherein the second person has access to the data that relates to the first product.

113. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 101, further comprising the step of storing data relating to an inventory of products from which the first person may select the second product.

114. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 113, wherein the data relating to the inventory of products comprises data identifying a variety of new products.

PATENT

Application No. 09/283,389
Attorney Docket No.: 98-099

61 115. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 101, wherein the offer to the first person further provides that the first person can obtain the second product for an amount equal to a cost of the second product minus a fair market value of the first product.

116. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 115, wherein the offer to the first person further provides that the fair market value of the first product is to be determined by a third party.

117. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 116, wherein the third party is the supplier.

PATENT

Application No. 09/283,389
Attorney Docket No.: 98-099

118. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 101, wherein the offer includes an amount the first person is to pay for the second product, and wherein the amount is equal to the difference between a cost associated with the second product and a cost associated with the first product.

61 119. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 118, wherein the amount the first person is to pay for the second product is affected by a product variable selected from at least one of the condition of the first product, the availability of the second product, and the price of the second product.

120. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 101, wherein the offer to the first person further provides a selection of products from which the first person can choose the second product.

121. (Original) A method as recited in Claim 101, wherein the first product includes more than one product.
